

## 1.7 DOOLITTLE'S METHOD WITH ROW INTERCHANGES

We have seen that Doolittle factorization of a matrix  $A$  may fail the moment at stage  $i$  we encounter a  $u_{ii}$  which is zero. This occurrence corresponds to the occurrence of zero pivot at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  stage of simple Gaussian elimination method. Just as we avoided this problem in the Gaussian elimination method by introducing partial pivoting we can adopt this procedure in the modified Doolittle's procedure. The Doolittle's method which is used to factorize  $A$  as  $LU$  is used from the point of view of reducing the system

$$Ax = y$$

to two triangular systems

$$Lz = y$$

$$Ux = z$$

as already mentioned on page 19.

Thus instead of actually looking for a factorization  $A = LU$  we shall be looking for a system,

$$A^*x = y^*$$

and for which  $A^*$  has  $LU$  decomposition.

We illustrate this by the following example: The basic idea is at each stage calculate all the  $u_{ij}$  that one can get by the permutation of rows of the matrix and choose that matrix which gives the maximum absolute value for  $u_{ij}$ .

As an example consider the system

$$Ax = y$$

where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -8 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We want  $LU$  decomposition for some matrix that is obtained from  $A$  by row interchanges.

We keep  $l_{ii} = 1$  for all  $i$ .

Stage 1:

1<sup>st</sup> diagonal of  $U$ . By Doolittle decomposition,

$$u_{11} = a_{11} = 3$$

If we interchange 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> rows with 1<sup>st</sup> row and then find the  $u_{11}$  for the new matrix we get respectively  $u_{11} = 2$  or  $1$  or  $3$ . Thus interchange of rows does

not give any advantage at this stage as we have already got 3, without row interchange, for  $u_{11}$ .

So we keep the matrix as it is and calculate 1<sup>st</sup> row of U, by Doolittle's method.

$$u_{11} = 3; u_{12} = a_{12} = 1; u_{13} = a_{13} = -2; u_{14} = -1$$

The first column of L:

$$l_{11} = 1; l_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{u_{11}} = \frac{2}{3}; l_{31} = \frac{a_{31}}{u_{11}} = \frac{1}{3}; l_{41} = \frac{a_{41}}{u_{11}} = \frac{3}{3} = 1.$$

Thus

$$L \text{ is of the form } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{2}{3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & l_{42} & l_{43} & l_{44} \end{pmatrix}; \text{ and}$$

$$U \text{ is of the form } \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} & u_{24} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} & u_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u_{44} \end{pmatrix}; \text{ A and Y remaining unchanged.}$$

## Stage 2

We now calculate the second diagonal of U: By Doolittle's method we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_{22} &= a_{22} - l_{21}u_{12} \\ &= -2 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(1) = -\frac{8}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose we interchange 2<sup>nd</sup> row with 3<sup>rd</sup> row of A and calculate  $u_{22}$  : our new  $a_{22}$  is 5.

But note that  $l_{21}$  and  $l_{31}$  get interchanged. Therefore new  $l_{21}$  is  $1/3$ .

Suppose instead of above we interchange 2<sup>nd</sup> row with 4<sup>th</sup> row of A:

New  $a_{22} = 1$  and new  $l_{21} = 1$  and therefore new  $u_{22} = 1 - (1)(1) = 0$

Of these  $14/3$  has largest absolute value. So we prefer this. Therefore we interchange 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> row.

$$NewA = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 5 & -4 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}; Newy = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -8 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$NewL = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{2}{3} & * & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & * & * & 1 \end{pmatrix}; NewU = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{14}{3} & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

Now we do the Doolittle calculation for this new matrix to get 2<sup>nd</sup> row of U and 2<sup>nd</sup> column of L.

$$\begin{aligned} u_{23} &= a_{23} - l_{21}u_{13} \\ &= (-4) - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(-2) = -\frac{10}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_{24} &= a_{24} - l_{21}u_{14} \\ &= (-1) - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(-1) = -\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> column of L:

$$\begin{aligned} l_{32} &= [a_{32} - l_{31}u_{12}] \div u_{22} \\ &= \left[ (-2) - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(1) \right] \div \frac{14}{3} \\ &= -\frac{4}{7} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} l_{42} &= [a_{42} - l_{41}u_{12}] \div u_{22} \\ &= [3 - (1)(1)] \div \frac{14}{3} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore new L has form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cancel{1/3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \cancel{2/3} & -\cancel{4/7} & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & * & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

New U has form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & \cancel{14/3} & -\cancel{10/3} & -\cancel{2/3} \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

This completes the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of our computation.

Note: We had three choices of  $u_{22}$  to be calculated, namely  $-8/3$ ,  $14/3$ ,  $0$  before we chose  $14/3$ . It appears that we are doing more work than Doolittle. But this is not really so. For, observe, that the rejected  $u_{22}$  namely  $-8/3$  and  $0$  when divided by the chosen  $u_{22}$  namely  $14/3$  give the entries of L below the second diagonal.

3<sup>rd</sup> Stage:

3<sup>rd</sup> diagonal of U:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{33} &= a_{33} - l_{31}u_{13} - l_{32}u_{23} \\ &= 2 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(-2) - \left(-\frac{4}{7}\right)\left(-\frac{10}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{10}{7} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose we interchange 3<sup>rd</sup> row and 4<sup>th</sup> row of new A obtained in 2<sup>nd</sup> stage. We get new  $a_{33} = 2$ .

But in L also the second column gets 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> row interchanges

Therefore new  $l_{31} = 1$  and new  $l_{32} = 0$

Therefore new  $u_{33} = a_{33} - l_{31} u_{13} - l_{32} u_{23}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 - (1)(-2) + (0)\left(-\frac{10}{3}\right) \\ &= 4. \end{aligned}$$

Of these two choices of  $u_{33}$  we have 4 has the largest magnitude. So we interchange 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> rows of the matrix of 2<sup>nd</sup> stage to get

$$NewA = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 5 & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad NewY = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -1 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$NewL = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{4}{7} & * & 1 \end{pmatrix}; NewU = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{14}{3} & -\frac{10}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

Now for this set up we calculate the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage entries as in Doolittle's method:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{34} &= a_{34} - l_{31}u_{14} - l_{32}u_{24} \\ &= 3 - (1)(-1) - (0)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) = 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} l_{43} &= (a_{43} - l_{41}u_{13} - l_{42}u_{23}) \div u_{33} \\ &= \left[ 2 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(-2) - \left(-\frac{4}{7}\right)\left(-\frac{10}{3}\right) \right] \div 4 \\ &= 5/14. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore NewL = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{4}{7} & \frac{5}{14} & 1 \end{pmatrix}; NewU = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{14}{3} & -\frac{10}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

Note: The rejected  $u_{33}$  divided by chosen  $u_{33}$  gives  $l_{43}$ .

#### 4th Stage

$$\begin{aligned}u_{44} &= [a_{44} - l_{41}u_{14} - l_{42}u_{24} - l_{43}u_{34}] \\ &= 3 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(-1) - \left(-\frac{4}{7}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) - \left(\frac{5}{14}\right)(4) \\ &= 13/7.\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{New } A = A^* = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 5 & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \text{New } Y = Y^* = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -1 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$$

New  $L = L^*$  , New  $U = U^*$

$$L^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2/3 & -4/7 & 5/14 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; U^* = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 14/3 & -10/3 & -2/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 13/7 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $A^* = L^*U^*$

The given system  $Ax=y$  is equivalent to the system

$$A^*x=y^*$$

and hence can be split into the triangular systems,

$$L^*z = y^*$$

$$U^*x = z$$

Now  $L^*z = y^*$  gives by forward substitution:

$$z_1 = 3$$

$$\frac{1}{3}z_1 + z_2 = 3 \Rightarrow z_2 = 3 - 1 = 2$$

$$z_1 + z_3 = -1 \Rightarrow z_3 = -1 - z_1 = -4$$

$$\frac{2}{3}z_1 - \frac{4}{7}z_2 + \frac{5}{14}z_3 + z_4 = -8$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(3) - \left(\frac{4}{7}\right)(2) + \left(\frac{5}{14}\right)(-4) + z_4 = -8$$

$$\Rightarrow z_4 = -\frac{52}{7}$$

$$\therefore z = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -4 \\ -\frac{52}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore  $U^*x = z$  gives by back-substitution;

$$\frac{13}{7}x_4 = -\frac{52}{7} \quad \text{therefore } x_4 = -4.$$

$$4x_3 + 4x_4 = -4 \Rightarrow x_3 + x_4 = -1 \Rightarrow x_3 = -1 - x_4 = 3$$

therefore  $x_3 = 3$

$$\frac{14}{3}x_2 - \frac{10}{3}x_3 - \frac{2}{3}x_4 = 2$$

$$\frac{14}{3}x_2 - \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)(3)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)(-4) = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 - x_4 = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x_1 + 2 - 6 + 4 - 3 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1$$

Therefore the solution of the given system is

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Some Remarks:

The factorization of a matrix  $A$  as the product of lower and upper triangular matrices is by no means unique. In fact, the diagonal elements of one or the other factor can be chosen arbitrarily; all the remaining elements of the upper and lower triangular matrices may then be uniquely determined as in Doolittle's method; which is the case when we choose all the diagonal entries of  $L$  as 1. The name of Crout is often associated with triangular decomposition methods, and in Crout's method the diagonal elements of  $U$  are all chosen as unity. Apart from this, there is little distinction, as regards procedure or accuracy, between the two methods.

As already mentioned, Wilkinson's (see Page 25), suggestion is to get a LU decomposition in which  $|l_{ii}| = |u_{ii}|; 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

We finally look at the Cholesky decomposition for a symmetric matrix:

Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix.

Let  $A = LU$  be its LU decomposition

Then  $A^T = U^T L^T$  where the superscript T denotes the Transpose.

We have

$U^T$  is lower triangular and  $L^T$  is upper triangular

Therefore  $U^T L^T$  is a decomposition of  $A^T$  as product of lower and upper triangular matrices. But  $A^T = A$  since  $A$  is symmetric.

Therefore  $LU = U^T L^T$

We ask the question whether we can choose  $L$  as  $U^T$ ; so that

$A = U^T U$  (or same as  $LL^T$ )

In that case, determining  $U$  automatically gets  $L = U^T$

We now do the Doolittle method for this. Note that it is enough to determine the rows of  $U$ .

Stage 1: 1<sup>st</sup> row of  $U$ :

$$a_{11} = \sum_{k=1}^n l_{1k} u_{k1} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{k1}^2 \quad \text{since } l_{1k} = u_{k1} \quad \therefore L = U^T$$

$$= u_{11}^2 \quad \text{since } u_{k1} = 0 \text{ for } k > 1 \text{ as } U \text{ is upper triangular.}$$

$$\therefore u_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}}$$

$$a_{1i} = \sum_{k=1}^n l_{1k} u_{ki} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{k1} u_{ki}$$

$$= u_{11} u_{1i} \quad \text{since } u_{k1} = 0 \text{ for } k > 1$$

$$u_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}}$$

$$\therefore u_{1i} = a_{1i} / u_{11} \quad \text{determines the first row of } U.$$

and hence the first column of  $L$ .

Having determined the 1<sup>st</sup>  $i-1$  rows of  $U$ ; we determine the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $U$  as follows:

$$a_{ii} = \sum_{k=1}^n l_{ik} u_{ki} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{kl}^2 \quad \text{since } l_{ik} = u_{ki}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^i u_{ki}^2 \text{ since } u_{ki} = 0 \text{ for } k > i$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki}^2 + u_{ii}^2$$

$$\therefore u_{ii}^2 = a_{ii} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki}^2$$

$$\therefore u_{ii} = \sqrt{a_{ii} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki}^2} \quad ;$$

( Note that  $u_{ki}$  are known for  $k \leq i-1$ , because 1<sup>st</sup>  $i-1$  rows have already been obtained).

$$a_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n l_{ik} u_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{ki} u_{kj} \quad \text{Now we need } u_{ij} \text{ for } j > i$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^i u_{ki} u_{kj} \quad \text{Because } u_{ki} = 0 \text{ for } k > i$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki} u_{kj} + u_{ii} u_{ij}$$

Therefore

$$u_{ij} = \left[ a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki} u_{kj} \right] \div u_{ii}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} u_{ii} = \sqrt{a_{ii} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki}^2} \\ u_{ij} = \left[ a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} u_{ki}u_{kj} \right] \div u_{ij} \end{cases}$$

determines the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of U in terms of the previous rows. Thus we get U and L is  $U^T$ . This is called CHOLESKY decomposition.

Example:

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 5 & -3 & 3 \\ 1 & -3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

This is a symmetric matrix. Let us find the Cholesky decomposition.

1<sup>st</sup> row of U

$$\begin{cases} u_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}} = 1 \\ u_{12} = a_{12} \div u_{11} = -1 \\ u_{13} = a_{13} \div u_{11} = 1 \\ u_{14} = a_{14} \div u_{11} = 1 \end{cases}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> row of U

$$\begin{cases} u_{22} = \sqrt{a_{22} - u_{12}^2} = \sqrt{5-1} = 2 \\ u_{23} = (a_{23} - u_{12}u_{13}) \div u_{22} = (-3 - (-1)(1)) \div 2 = -1 \\ u_{24} = (a_{24} - u_{12}u_{14}) \div u_{22} = (3 - (-1)(1)) \div 2 = 2 \end{cases}$$

3<sup>rd</sup> row of U

$$\begin{cases} u_{33} = \sqrt{a_{33} - u_{13}^2 - u_{23}^2} = \sqrt{3 - 1 - 1} = 1 \\ u_{34} = (a_{34} - u_{13}u_{14} - u_{23}u_{24}) \div u_{33} = (1 - (1)(1) - (-1)(2)) \div 1 = 2 \end{cases}$$

4<sup>th</sup> row of U

$$u_{44} = \sqrt{a_{44} - u_{14}^2 - u_{24}^2 - u_{34}^2} = \sqrt{10 - 1 - 4 - 4} = 1$$

$$\therefore U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore U^{-1} = L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= LU \\ &= LL^T \\ &= U^T U \end{aligned}$$